

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-2 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 3-4 and 8-9 as follows:

1-2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) An interrogator according to claim 1 that forms movable body identification equipment together with plural transponders, comprising:

at least one sleeve antenna as an antenna that executes an information exchange with the plural transponders by a radio communication using a microwave band;

a transmitting circuit that modulates data into an RF signal, the RF signal being transmitted out via said at least one sleeve antenna; and

a receiving circuit that receives signals via said at least one sleeve antenna,

wherein, when the at least one sleeve antenna represents plural antennas, the interrogator possesses an RF signal selector that selects either one of the plural sleeve antennas in correspondence with each of the plural antennas.

4. (Currently Amended) An interrogator according to claim 2 that forms movable body identification equipment together with plural transponders, comprising:

at least one sleeve antenna as an antenna that executes an information exchange with the plural transponders by a radio communication using a microwave band;

a transmitting circuit that modulates data into an RF signal, the RF signal being transmitted out via said at least one sleeve antenna; and

a receiving circuit that receives signals via said at least one sleeve antenna,

wherein a grounded conductive plate is disposed close to the at least one sleeve antenna, on a side opposite to a side on which the transponders related to the at least one sleeve antenna are disposed, and

wherein, when the at least one sleeve antenna represents plural antennas, the interrogator possesses an RF signal selector that selects either one of the plural sleeve antennas in correspondence with each of the plural antennas.

5. (Original) An interrogator according to claim 3, wherein a switching signal to drive the RF signal selector is created on the basis of a pulse count signal being superposed on an RF signal outputted from the interrogator.
6. (Original) An interrogator according to claim 3, further comprising an indicator that operates synchronously with the RF signal selector, in combination with the selector.
7. (Original) An interrogator according to claim 3, further comprising a sound source that operates synchronously with the RF signal selector, in combination with the selector.
8. (Currently Amended) An interrogator according to claim [[1]]3, wherein the transponders of a flat rectangular shape are arrayed close to the at least one sleeve antenna.
9. (Currently Amended) An interrogator according to claim [[2]]4, wherein the transponders of a flat rectangular shape are arrayed close to the at least one sleeve antenna.
10. (Original) An interrogator according to claim 3, wherein the plural sleeve antennas are divided into plural antenna groups, and an RF signal from the interrogator is supplied in parallel to the plural antenna groups.
11. (Original) An interrogator according to claim 3, wherein the plural sleeve antennas are divided into plural antenna groups, and an RF signal from the interrogator is supplied in parallel to the plural antenna groups, through another RF signal selector that selects either one group of the antenna groups.
12. (Original) A goods management system comprising: plural transponders of a flat rectangular shape that are each attached on sides of each of plural goods; an interrogator that executes an information exchange with the plural transponders by a radio communication using the microwave band; and a management terminal that controls the plural goods, using information from the interrogator acquired by the

information exchange; wherein the interrogator includes: plural sleeve antennas for exchanging information with the plural transponders; a grounded conductive plate disposed close to the plural sleeve antennas, on a side opposite to a side on which the plural transponders related to the plural sleeve antennas are disposed; and an RF signal selector that selects either one of the plural sleeve antennas, wherein the transponders are arrayed close to the plural sleeve antennas.

13. (Original) A goods management system according to claim 12, wherein the plural sleeve antennas are divided into plural antenna groups, and an RF signal from the interrogator is supplied in parallel to the plural antenna groups, through another RF signal selector that selects either one group of the antenna groups.
14. (Original) A goods management system according to claim 13, further comprising an indicator that operates synchronously with the RF signal selector and another RF signal selector, in combination with the selector and another selector.
15. (Original) A goods management system according to claim 13, further comprising a sound source that operates synchronously with the RF signal selector and another RF signal selector, in combination with the selector and another selector.